# IGNOU

## MDV-106

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY IN DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

## Question Bank

## (June 2019 to December 2025)

**June 2019**

1. What is social science research? Discuss different types of social science research.
2. What do you mean by focus group discussion? Discuss in detail the focus group discussion method.
3. What are rating scales? Discuss different types of rating scales.
4. Write short notes on the following: (i) Criteria for judging the objectives (ii) Stakeholder analysis.
5. What is meant by reliability of a measuring instrument? What are the methods of determining the reliability? Discuss.
6. What is primary data? Discuss in detail the questionnaire method of quantitative data collection.
7. Differentiate between: (i) Social assessment and social audit (ii) Null hypothesis and alternative hypothesis.
8. Explain various components of a research report with an example.

**December 2019**

1. Discuss different methods used by development researchers for appraisal of a project.
2. What is meant by research design? Name different types of research designs. Explain any one of them.
3. What is meant by validity? Discuss different approaches to validation of a measuring instrument.
4. Why is sampling important in research? Discuss any two sampling methods with their advantages and disadvantages.
5. What are the qualitative methods of data collection? Explain case study method of collecting qualitative data along with its advantages and disadvantages.
6. Write short notes on the following: (a) Primary and Secondary data (b) Dependent and independent variables.
7. Discuss different components of a research report with examples.
8. Discuss the use of different figures and graphs in presenting the data in research report with suitable examples.

**June 2020**

1. What is development research? Discuss the key principles of development research.
2. Discuss the step involved in the formulation of a research project proposal with an example.
3. What is measurement? Discuss the important criteria to be used in evaluating a measuring tool. What are the sources of errors in measurement?

4. Write short notes on the following: (a) Questionnaire method of data collection (b) Central tendency.
5. What is sampling? What are the different types of probability sampling? Discuss any two in detail.
6. Discuss the different types of tables, figures and graphs used in presenting data.
7. Differentiate between the following: (i) Quantitative and qualitative data (ii) Conventional research and development research.
8. What are the different methods of qualitative data collection? Discuss the case study method of qualitative data collection.

**December 2020**

1. What is development research? Discuss key principles of development research.
2. Describe various steps in formulation of a research project proposal by giving suitable example.
3. What is sampling? Discuss the different types of probability sampling.
4. What is measurement? Why is it important? Discuss the measurement postulates giving examples.
5. What do you mean by focus group discussion? Explain different steps in conducting a focus group discussion with its advantages and disadvantages.
6. Write short notes on the following: (a) Questionnaire method of data collection (b) Criteria for judging a workable hypothesis.

7. Discuss the chapters included in the main text of a research report giving examples.
8. What are the different measures of central tendency? Discuss the measures of central tendency giving examples.

**June 2021**

1. What is development research? Discuss the key principles of development research.
2. What is validity? What are the different approaches to validation of a measuring instrument?
3. What is sampling? Discuss the types of probability sampling.
4. Write short notes on the following: (a) Criteria of choosing a research topic (b) Sustainable livelihood analysis.
5. What is qualitative data? Discuss observation method of qualitative data collection.
6. Discuss various measures of central tendency, giving examples of each.
7. Discuss with example, the constituents of the preliminary pages of a research report.
8. Discuss various applications of development research in urban and rural development, with examples.

**December 2021**

1. What is the importance of a research design? Name different types of research designs. Explain any one with examples.
2. What are the different methods of development research? Explain the case study method of development research.

3. What is sampling? Discuss the types of non-probability sampling.
4. Write short notes on the following: (i) Criteria for judging a workable hypothesis (ii) Needs assessment.
5. What are the different forms of data sourcing? Discuss the qualities of a good data source.
6. Explain different methods of presentation of statistical data.
7. Differentiate between the following: (i) Natural science research and social science research (ii) Use of computers in data analysis.
8. Write different steps in writing research project protocol.

**June 2022**

1. What is development research? What are the different methods of development research? Discuss focus group discussion method in detail.
2. What is the importance of formulating objectives in conducting research? Discuss the criteria for judging the objectives.
3. Describe the importance of pre-test or pilot study. What aspects of research methodology can be evaluated during pre-testing?
4. What is measurement? Discuss the different postulates of measurement.
5. Define reliability. Describe different methods of determining reliability.
6. What is primary data? What are the various types of quantitative primary data-gathering tools? Discuss in detail questionnaire method of primary data collection.
7. Explain various measures of central tendency with the help of examples.
8. Write short notes on the following: (a) Type I and Type II Errors (b) Correlation Analysis.

**December 2022**

1. What are research designs? Name different types of research designs. Write in detail about cohort and cross-sectional research design.
2. Define validity. Explain the different types of validity.
3. What are different types of rating scales? Write in detail about numerical and itemized rating scales.
4. What is sampling? What are the different types of non-probability sampling? Discuss.
5. What is qualitative data? What are the various types of qualitative data gathering tools? Discuss in detail case study method of qualitative data collection.
6. Define dispersion. Discuss different measures of dispersion.
7. Discuss use of figures and graphs in presenting data, by giving examples.
8. Write short notes on the following: (a) Null and Alternative Hypotheses (b) Paired t-test.

**June 2023**

1. Distinguish between social science research and physical science research. Describe different types of social science research.
2. What is research design? Explain any two types of research designs.
3. Explain various methods of appraisal of existing situation in development research.
4. What are various types of rating scales? Describe various errors in rating scales.
5. Explain non-probability sampling. Describe sample design process.

6. Describe the questionnaire and interview method of data collection with advantages and disadvantages.
7. Discuss various methods of dispersion with suitable examples.
8. Write short notes on the following: (i) Types of tabulation (ii) Secondary data.

**December 2023**

1. Explain various steps followed in the formulation of a research project.
2. Illustrate the concept of objectives and hypothesis in Social Science research with suitable examples.
3. What are the different types of development research? Describe key principles of development research.
4. What is sampling? Describe in detail different types of sampling.
5. Explain different sources of data in agriculture and infrastructure sector.
6. Differentiate between correlation and regression. Describe characteristics and significance of correlation coefficient in development research.
7. Describe main components of the research report by giving suitable examples.
8. Write short notes on the following: (a) Tests of significance (b) Validity and reliability.

**June 2024**

1. Define social science research. Discuss various approaches to social science research.

2. Explain objective formulation and hypothesis development along with their importance in social science research.
3. Describe various steps in the formulation of research project proposal.
4. Narrate different types of measurement. Explain criteria for judging the measuring instruments.
5. Describe various types of rating scales. Explain guidelines in constructing rating scales.
6. Explain various methods of data collection by giving their merits and demerits.
7. Describe any two measures of central tendency and dispersion by giving their merits and demerits.
8. Write short notes on any two of the following: (a) Correlation (b) Data Tabulation (c) Sampling.

**December 2024**

1. Explain different types of social science research by giving suitable examples.
2. Describe review of literature and hypothesis formulation by giving their need and importance in social science research.
3. Distinguish between conventional research and development research. Explain key principles of development research.
4. Distinguish between probability and non-probability sampling. Discuss the types of probability sampling.
5. Distinguish between quantitative and qualitative data. Discuss any one method of qualitative data collection.

6. Describe various types of national and global data sources.
7. What is data tabulation? Discuss various types of data tabulation.
8. Write short notes on any two of the following: (a) Measures of dispersion (b) Reliability and validity (c) Research project proposal.

**June 2025**

1. What are the different methods used for appraisal of existing situation by development researchers? Describe need assessment and stakeholder analysis methods.
2. What is development research? Discuss the key principles of development research.
3. Discuss the steps involved in formulation of a research project proposal, citing suitable examples.
4. What is validity? Describe the different types of validity.
5. Define sampling. Explain the different types of probability sampling. Discuss any two.
6. What are the different components of research report? Discuss.
7. Explain the various measures of dispersion with the help of examples.
8. Write short notes on any two of the following: (a) Criteria for judging a workable hypothesis (b) Functions of review of literature (c) Focus group discussion.

**December 2025**

1. What is development research? What are the key principles of development research? Discuss.

2. What is project proposal? Discuss the phases of project formulation.
3. What is the difference between reliability and validity? Giving reasons, discuss which is more important, reliability or validity.
4. What is sampling? Discuss the different types of non-probability sampling techniques.
5. What are the different methods of qualitative data collection? Discuss the focus group discussion method in detail.
6. What are the different parts of a research report? With an example, discuss the preliminary pages of a research report.
7. What is the importance of charts and graphs in data presentation? Discuss their use in data presentation with suitable examples.
8. Write short notes on any two of the following: (a) Criteria for choosing a research topic (b) Types of variables (c) Functions of review of literature.